

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending.

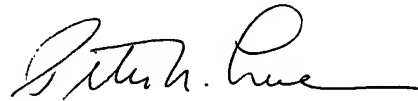
Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended to his representative at the Personal Interview of March 7, 2006. As discussed therein, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the means for gathering articles is mounted to the conveyer and touches the ground, as well as to recite that the moldboard pushes articles away.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Johnson (U.S. Patent No. 501,515). Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Johnson in view of EP 319420 A2. Claims 10-19 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Johnson in view of Persoons et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,287,707).

However, in light of the amendments (made in accordance with the agreement made at the Personal Interview), Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all objections and rejections are overcome. Thus, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If any additional fee is necessary to make this paper timely and/or complete, it may be charged to the undersigned's deposit account number 19-4375.

Respectfully submitted,



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